

FIG. 2
PRIOR ART

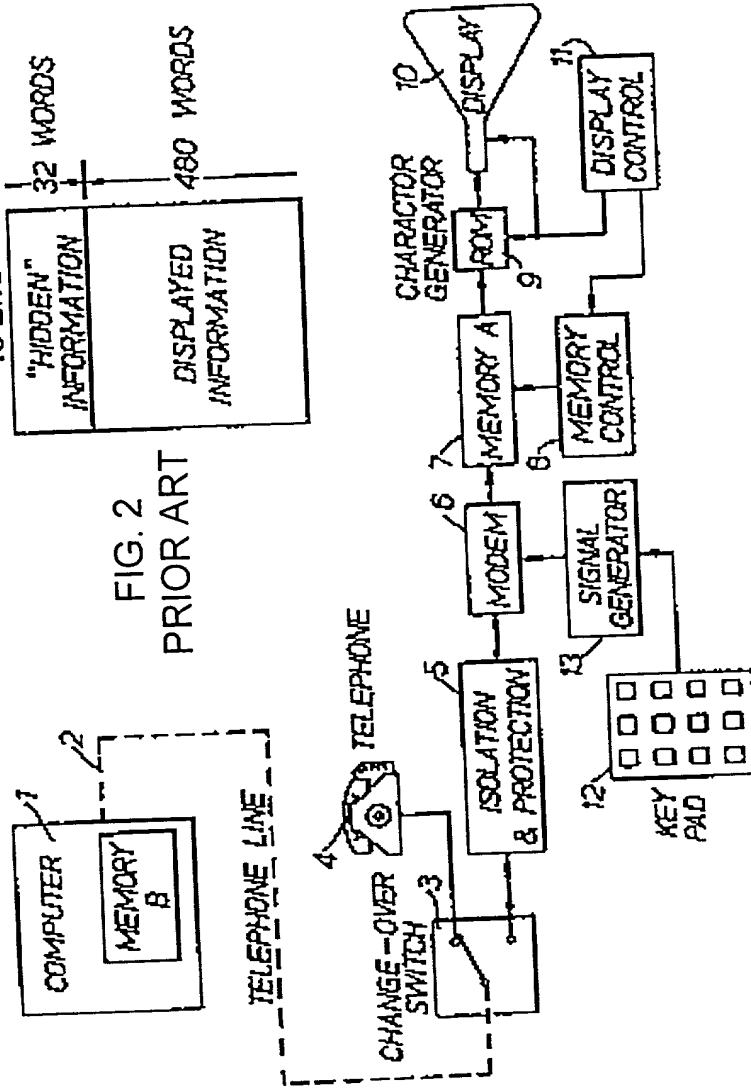


FIG. 1
PRIOR ART

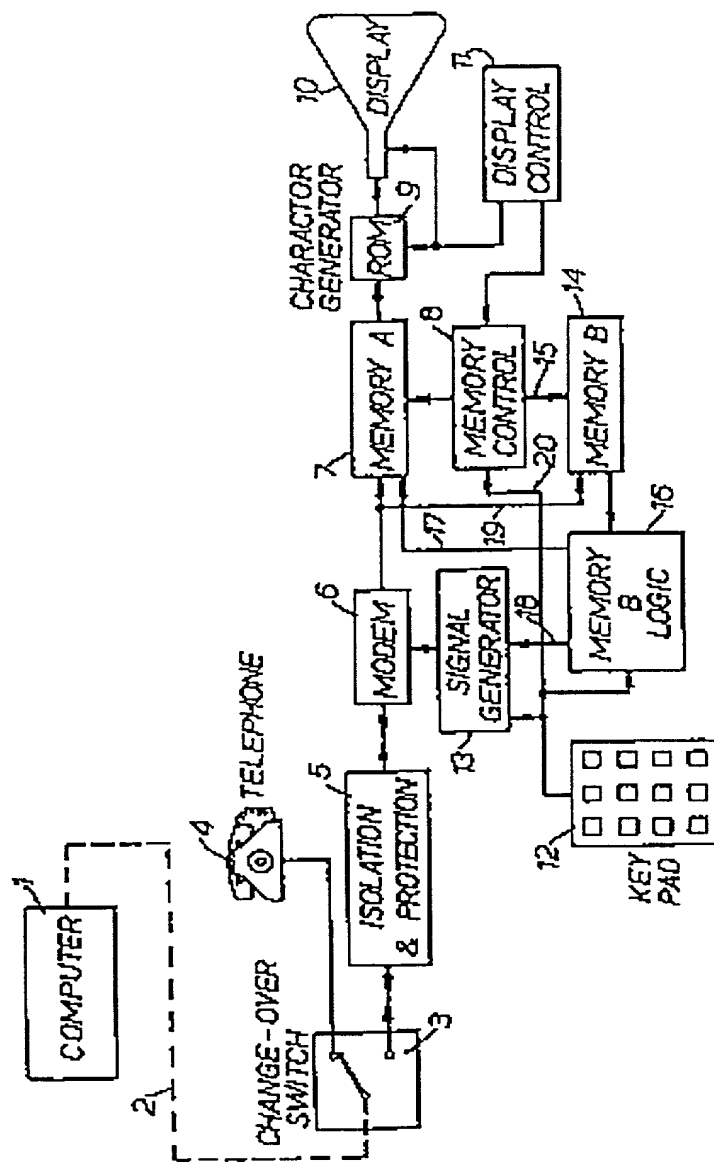


FIG. 3
PRIOR ART

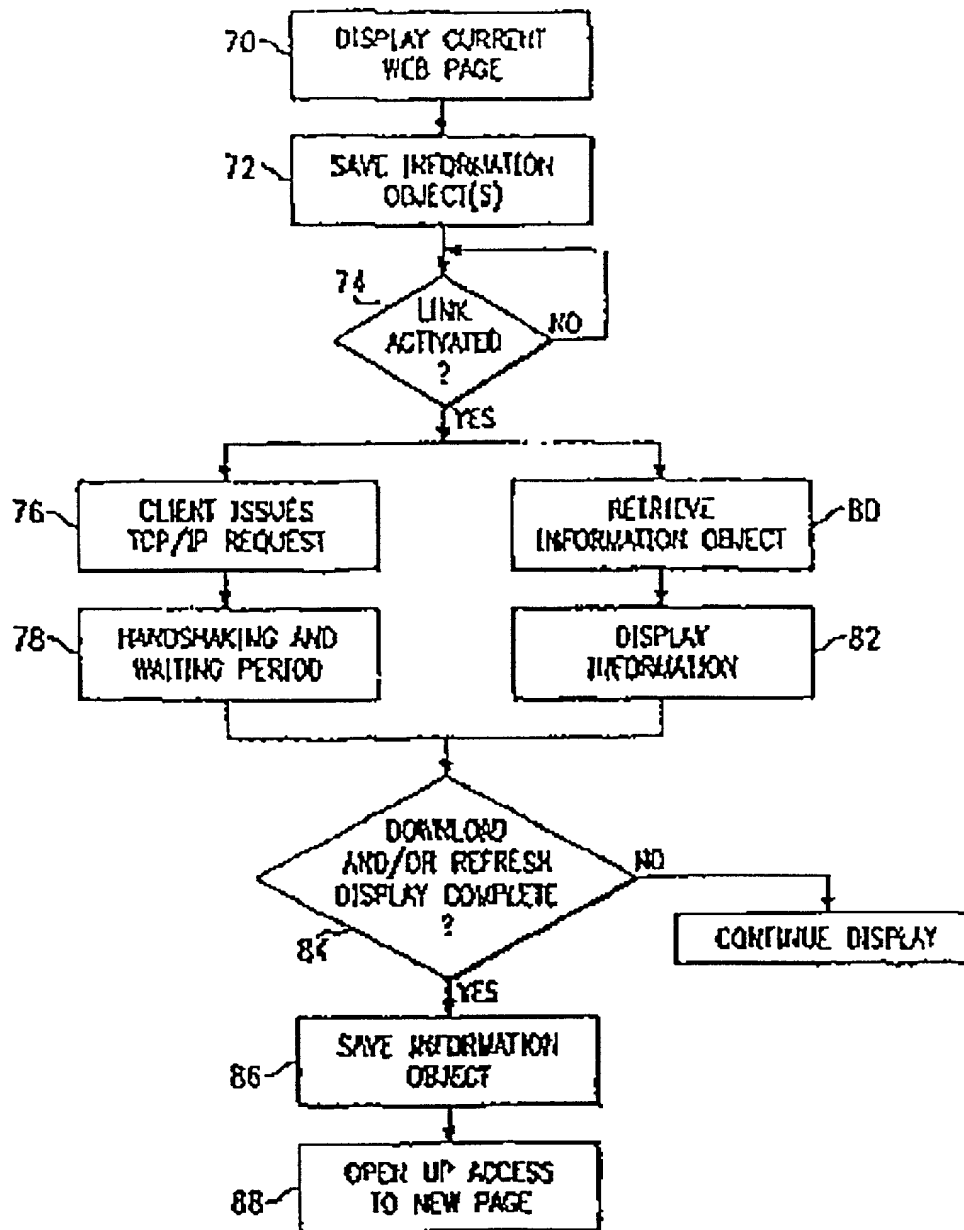


FIG. 4
PRIOR ART

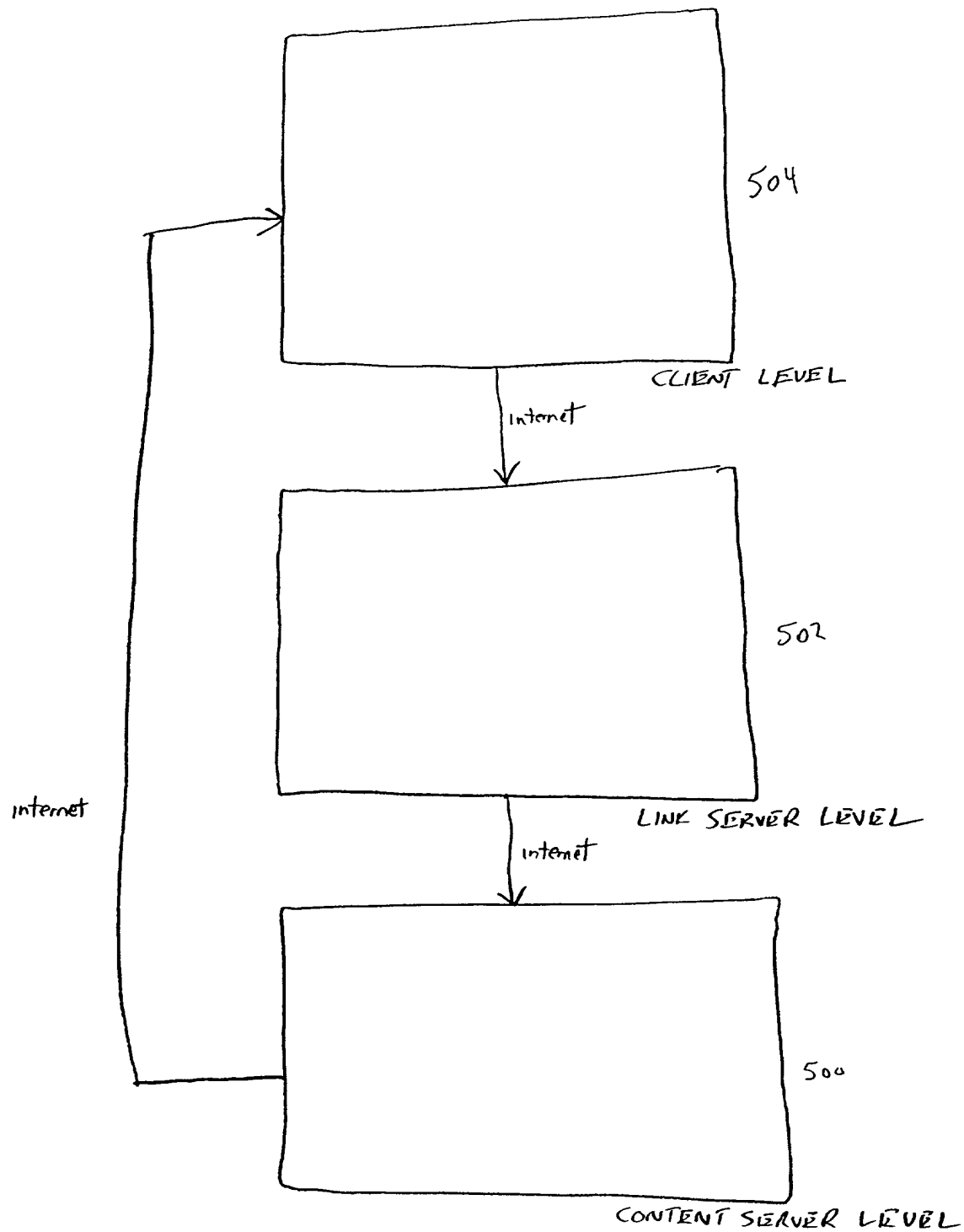
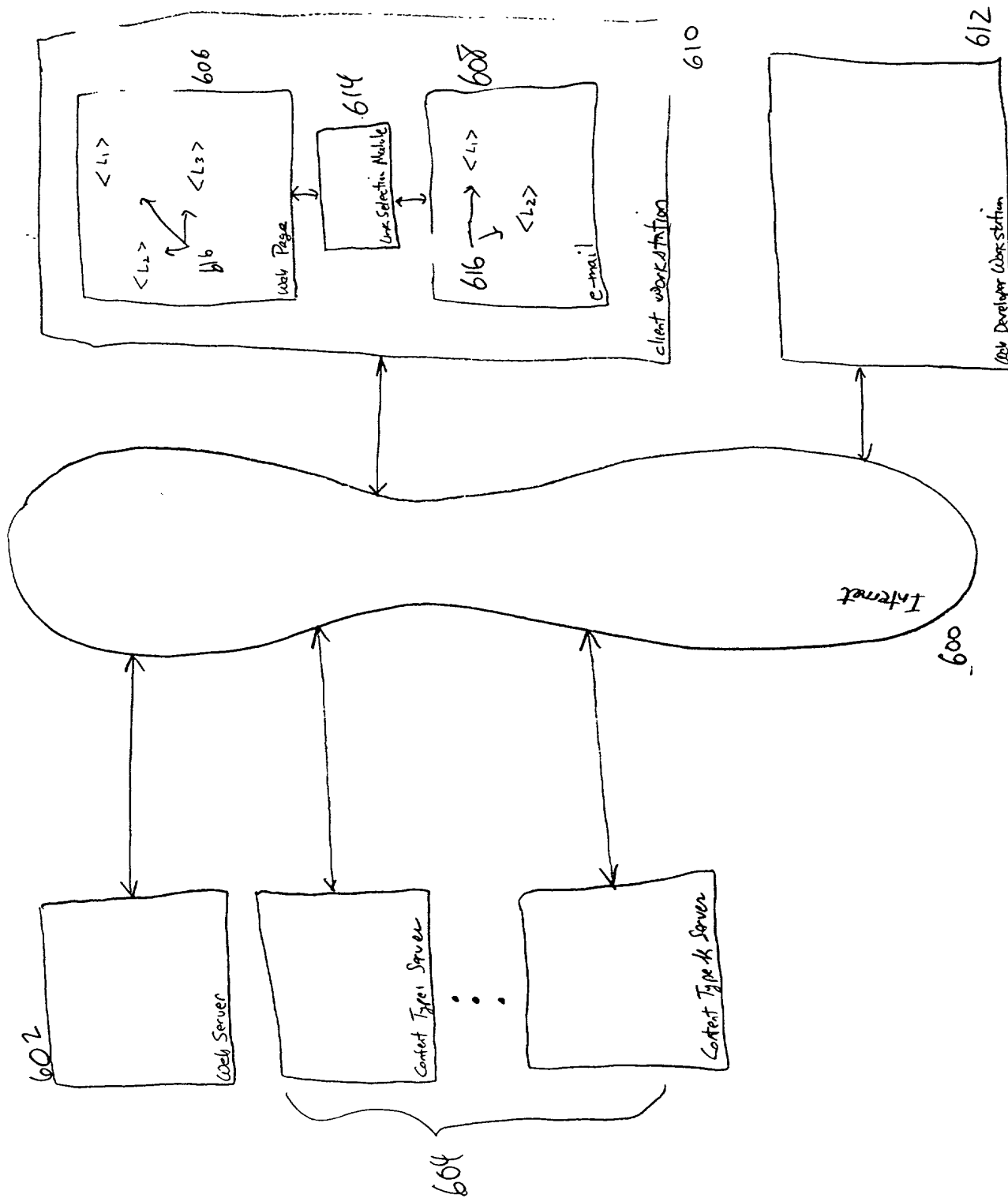
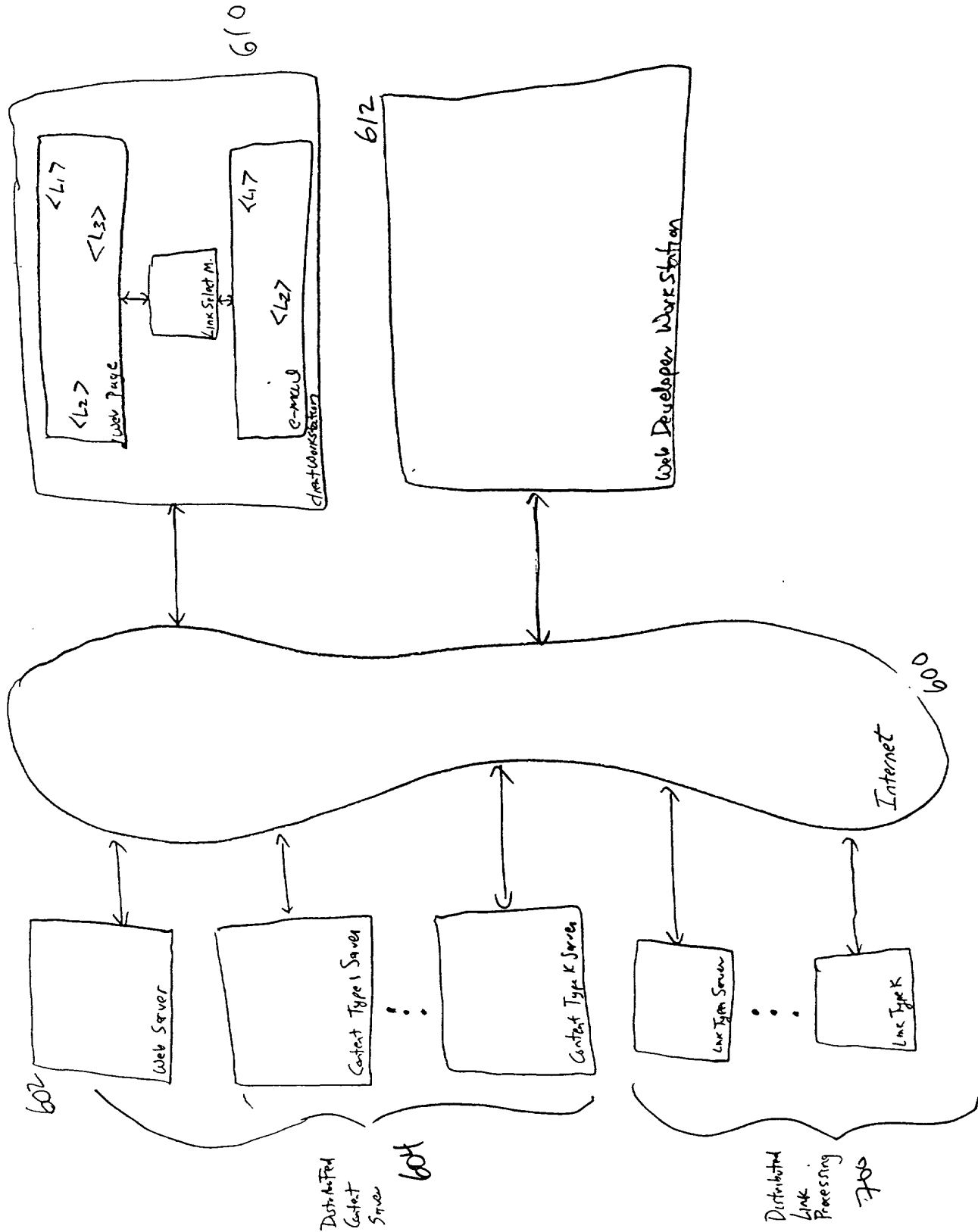


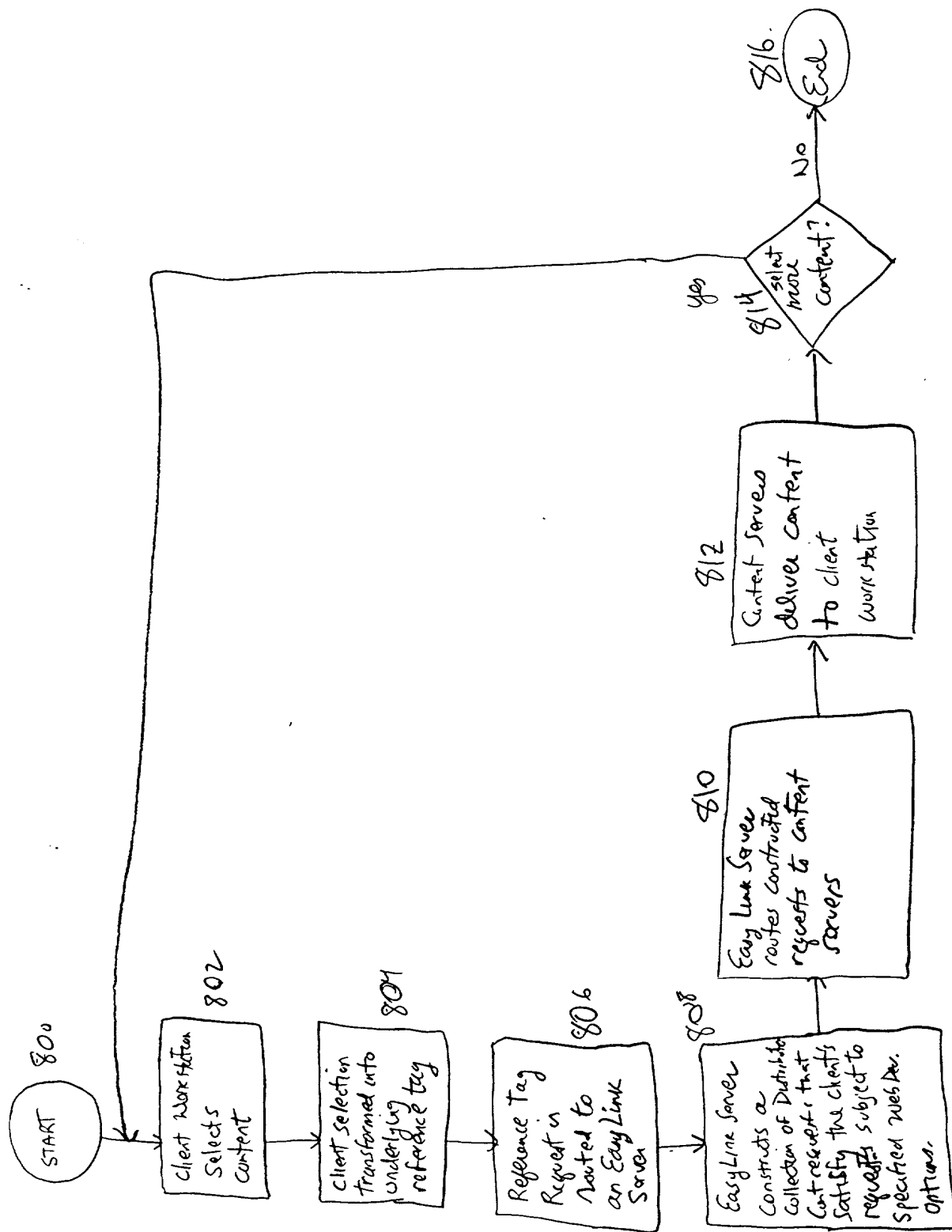
Figure 5 : Network Architecture Showing the Link Server Level



Linking Distributed Content over the Internet : Figure-6



Distributed Link Processing : Figure 7



Distributed Link Processing Figure 8

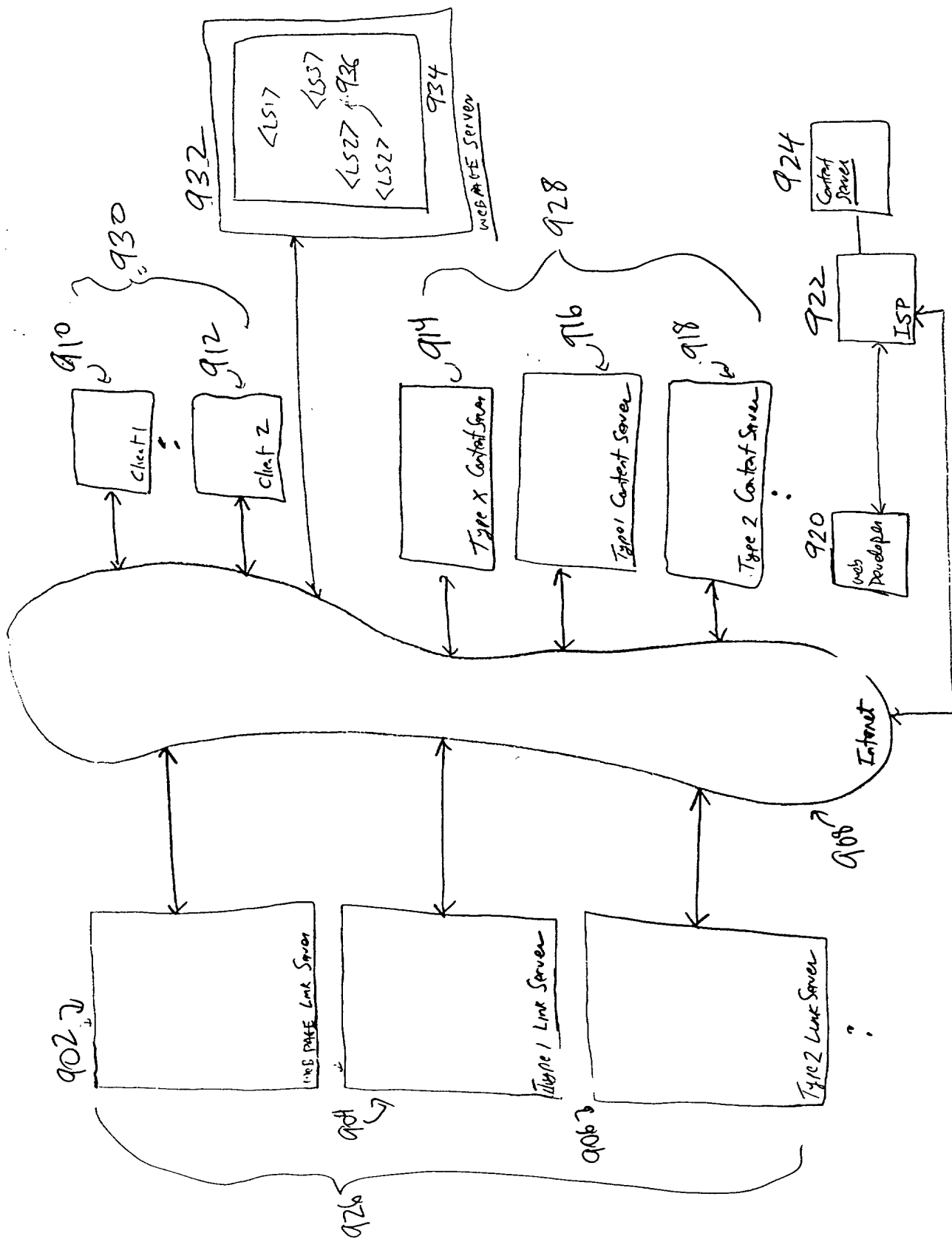


Figure 9 : Distributed Information Link Processing

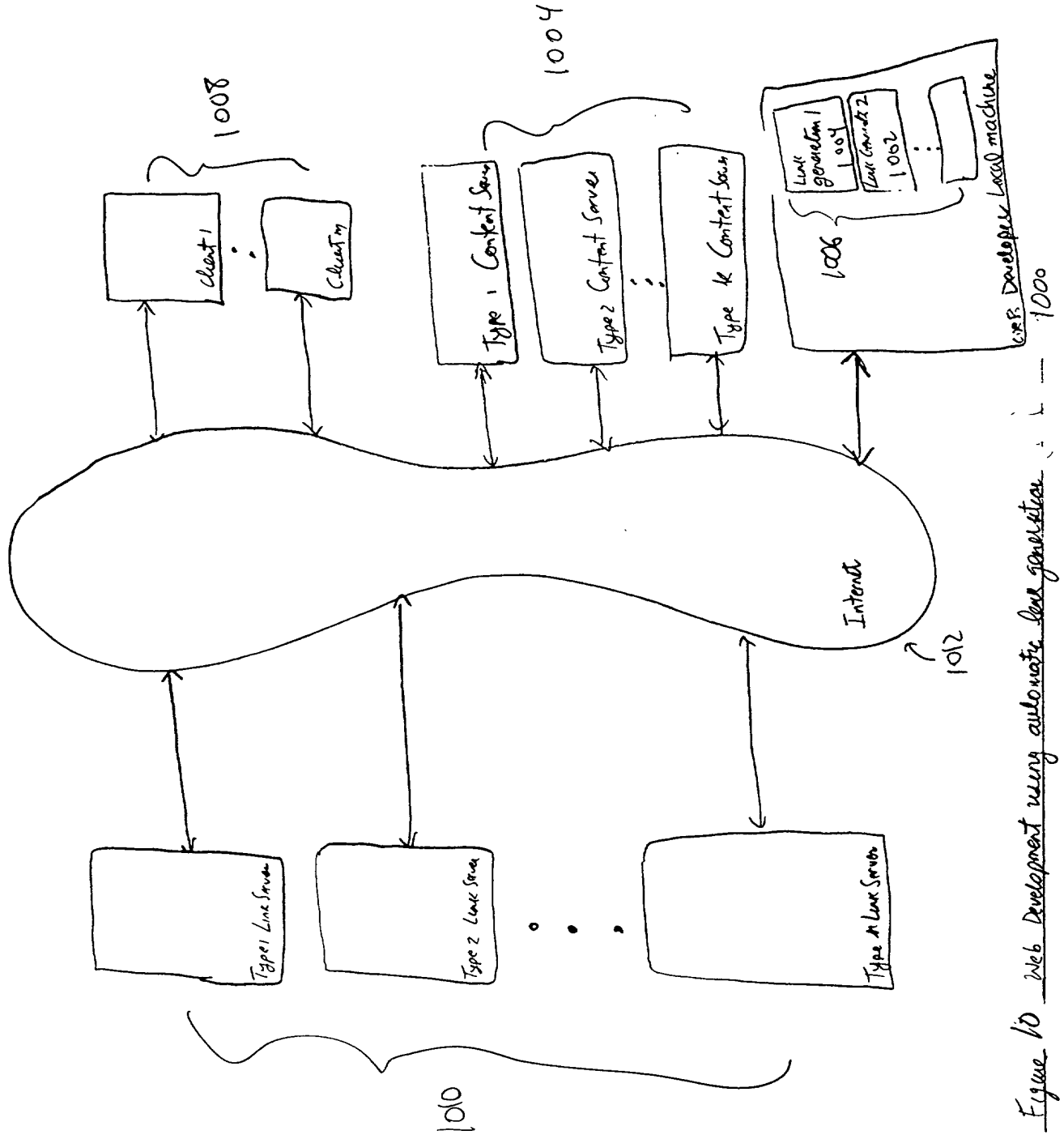


Figure 10 Web Development using automatic link generation

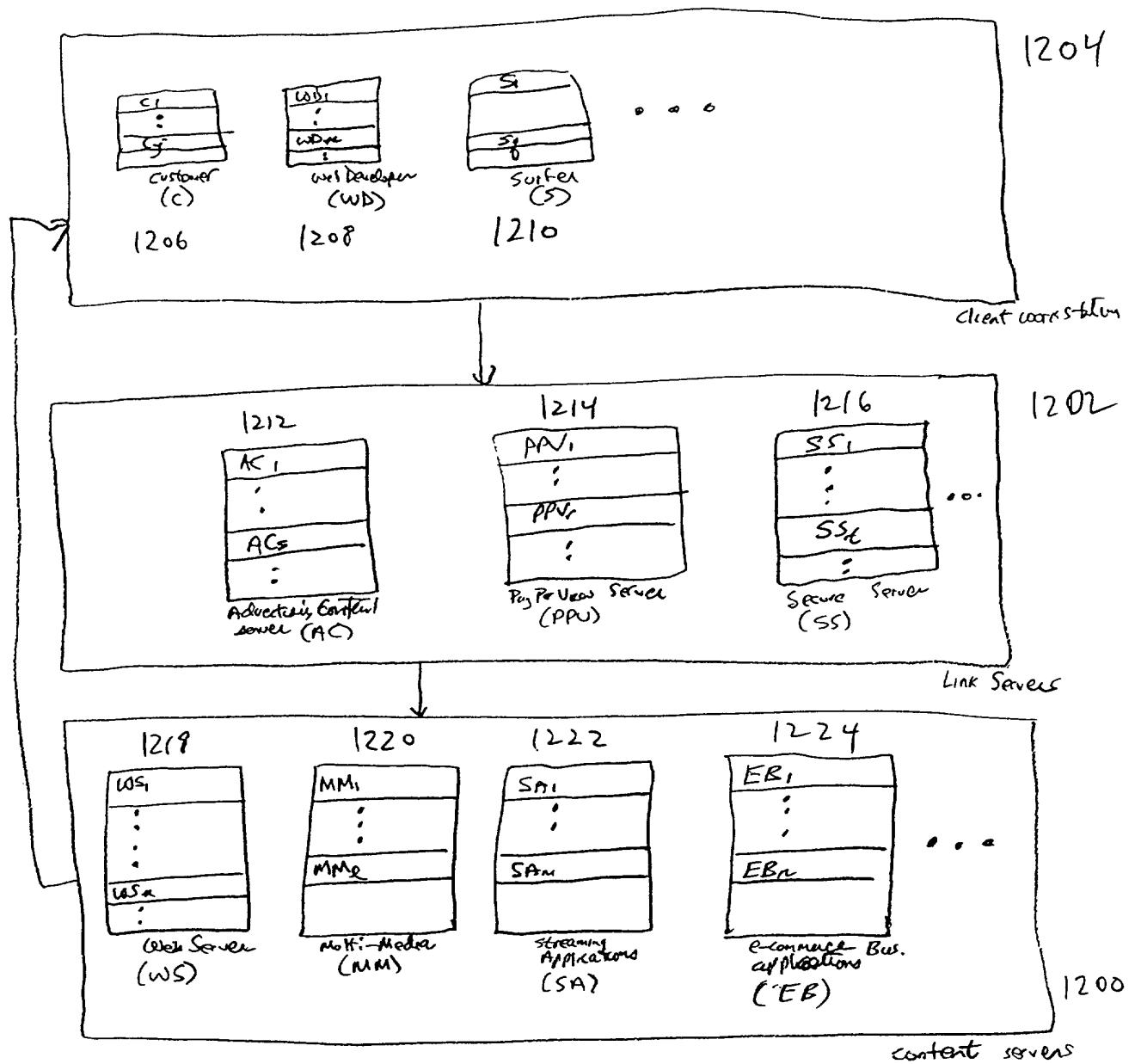
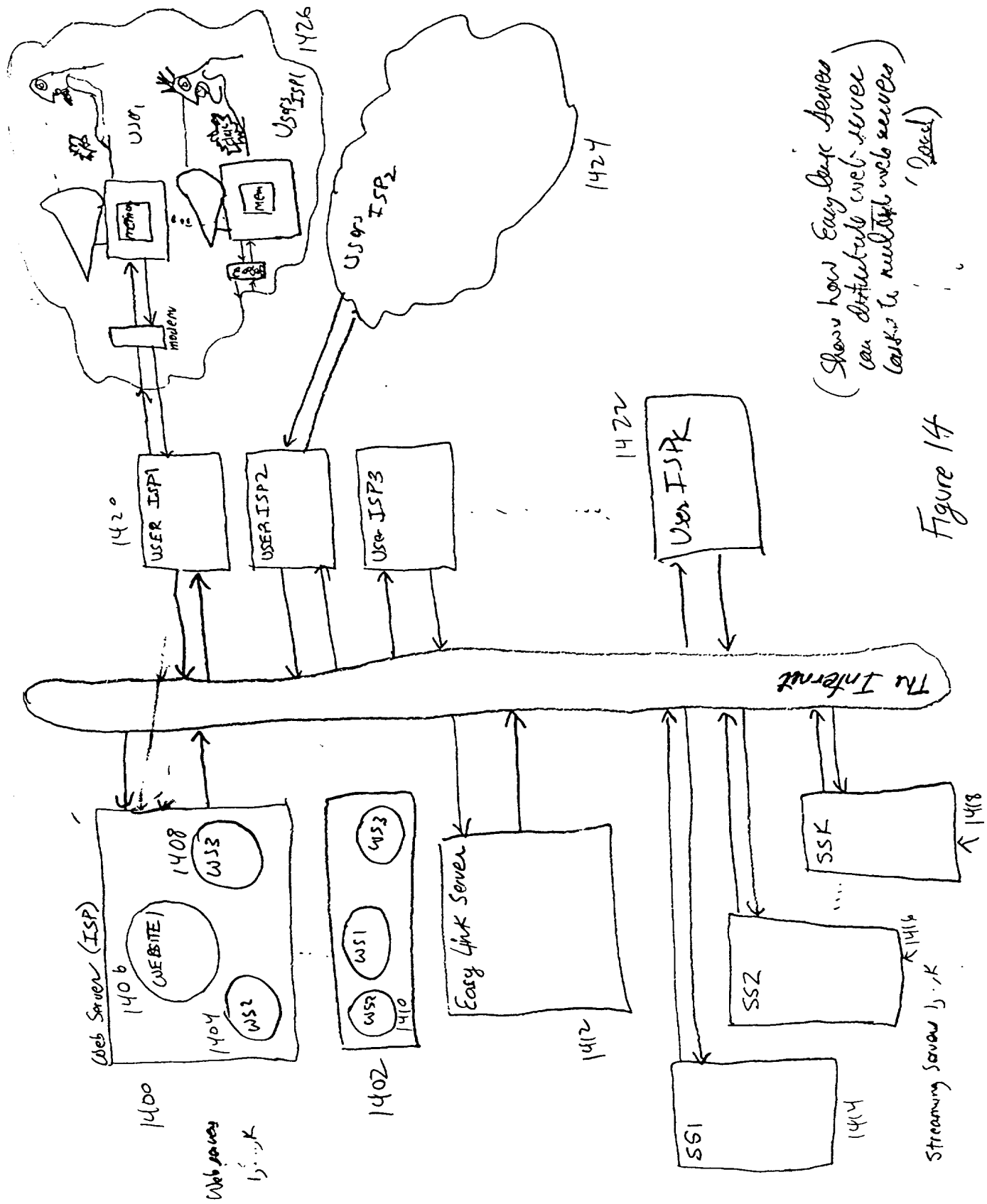


Figure 12 : Showing Categorization of Links by Application Requirements.



(Show how Easy Link Server can distribute web server tasks to multiple web servers)

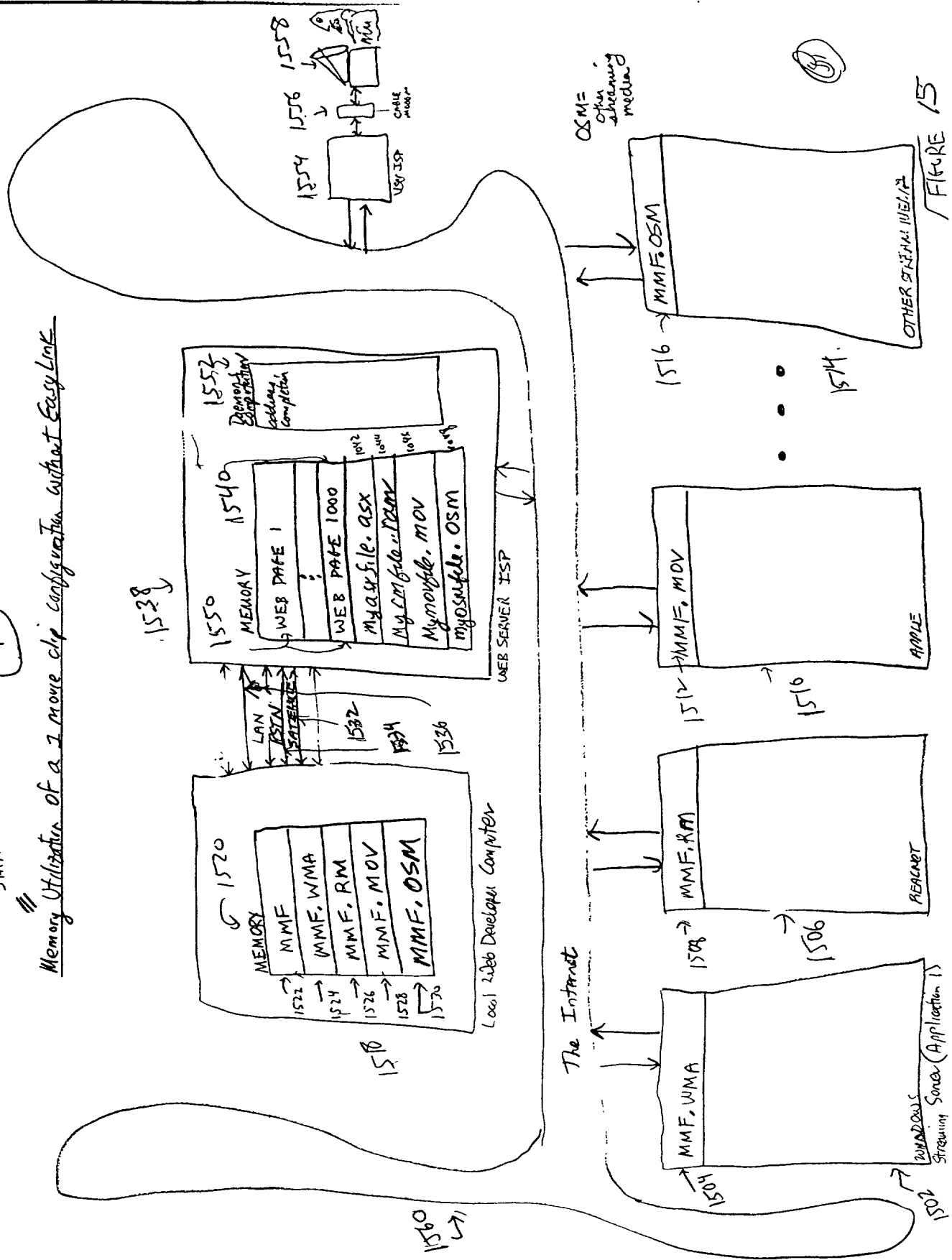
Figure 14

MMF = My Media File

STATIC CONFIGURATION

15

Memory Utilization of a 1 move clip configuration without EasyLink



Memory Utilization of a 1 megabyte configuration With Easy Link

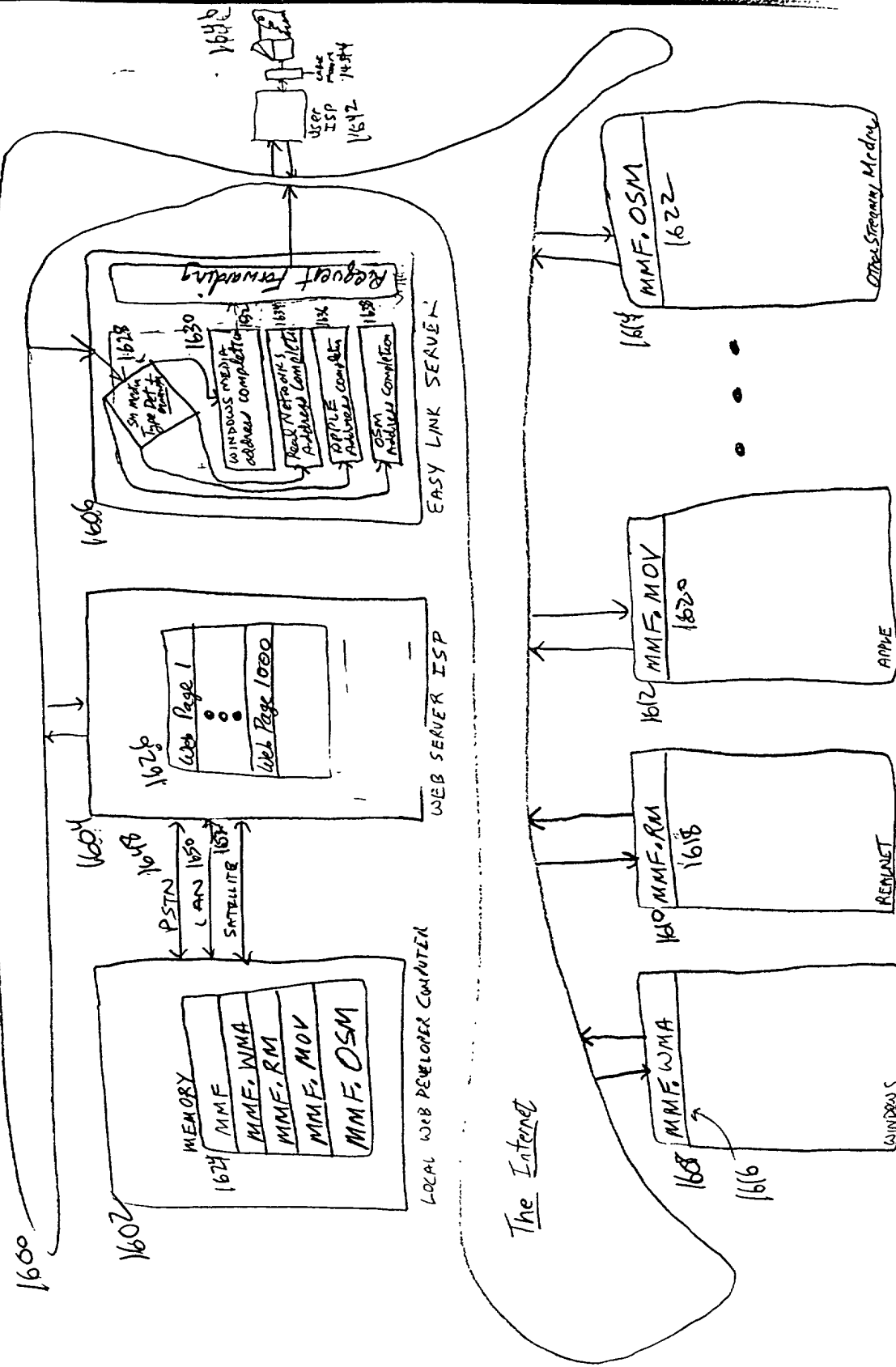


FIGURE 16

Example Easylink Process for one consumer/one type of content.

Streaming Application Consumer

Easylink Server

Streaming Application Server

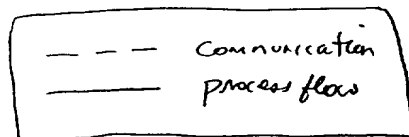
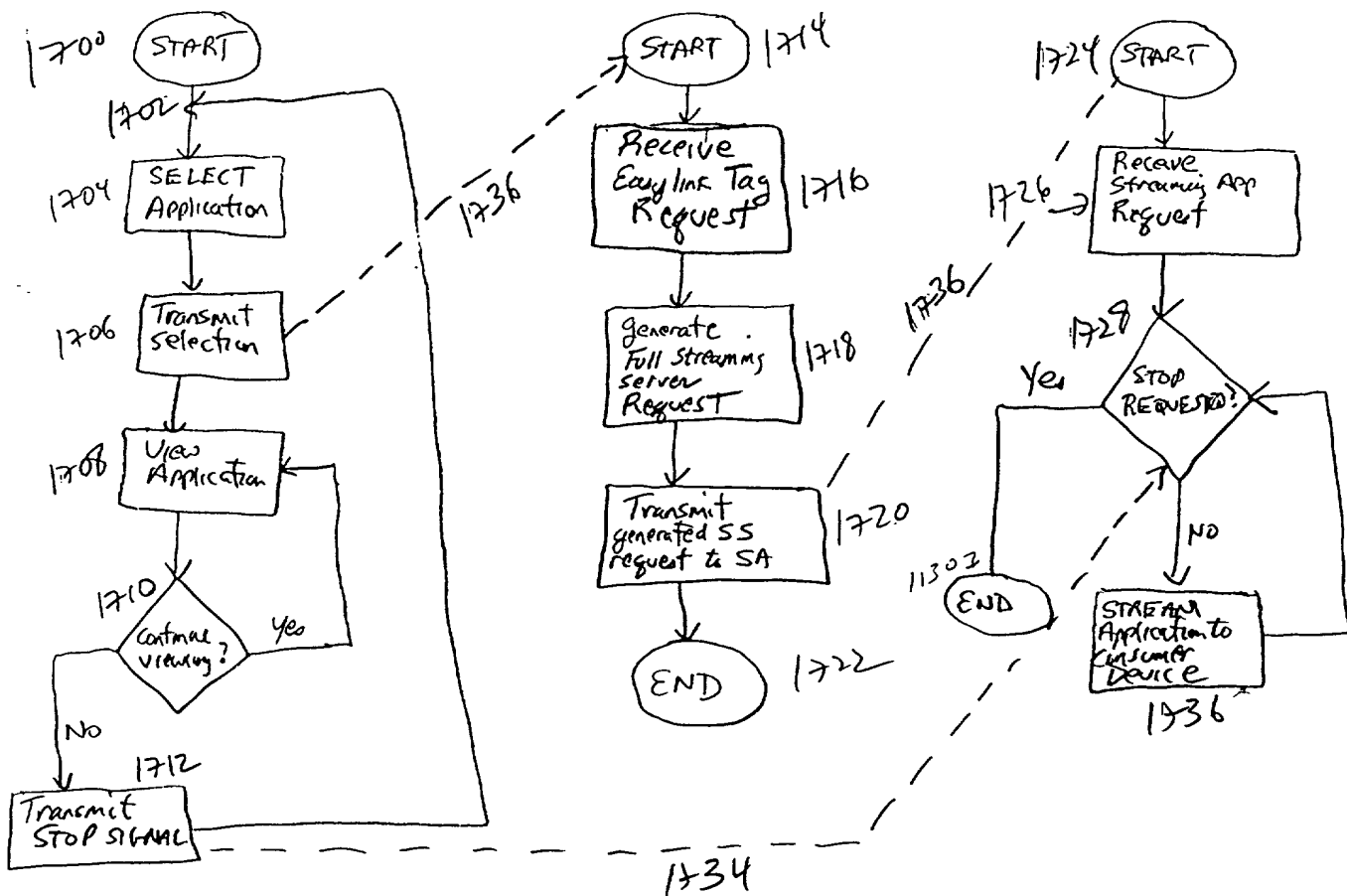


FIGURE 17

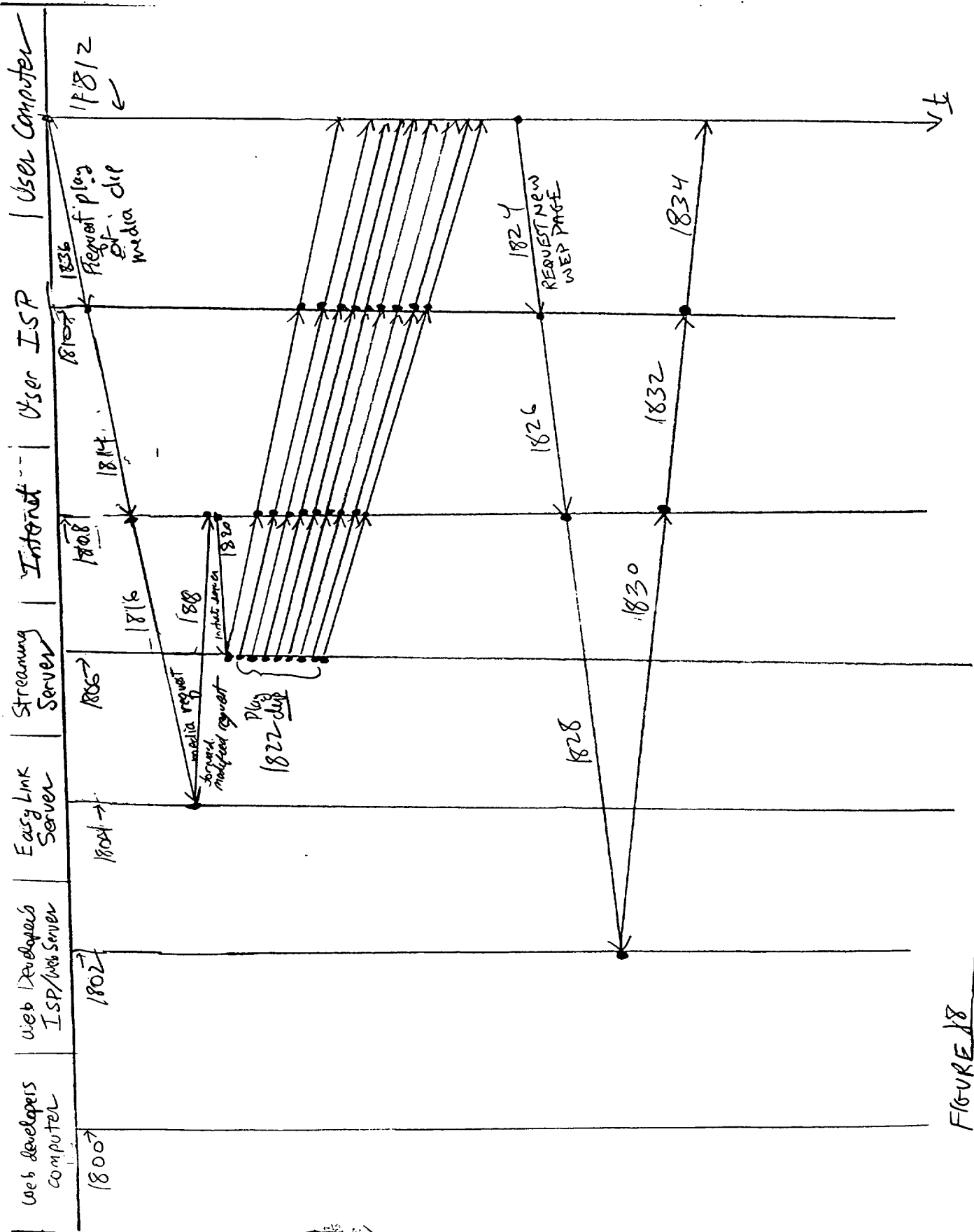


FIGURE 18

Memory Organization Example for Web Developer's Computer Supporting EasyLink Process

FIG 19

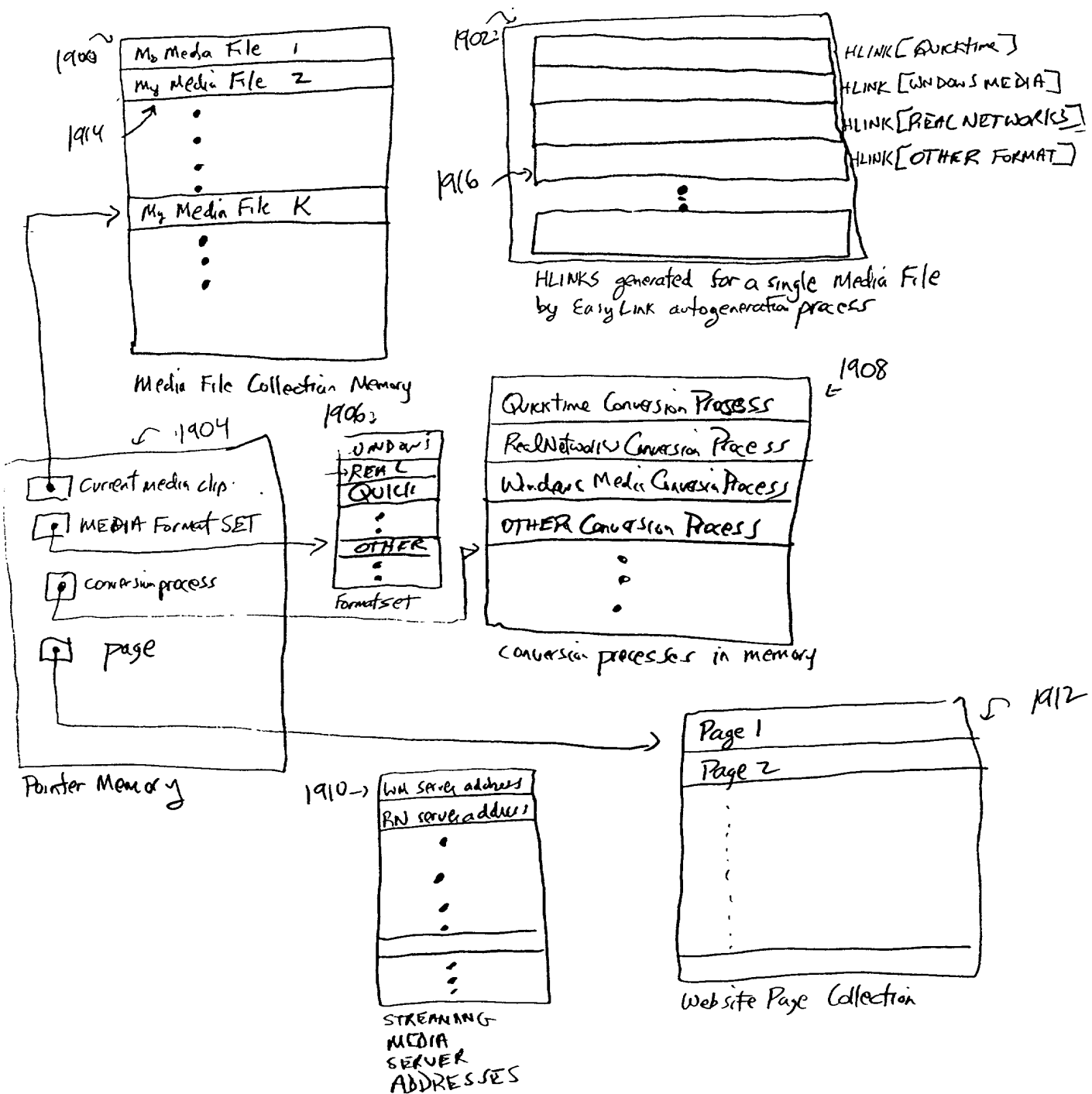


FIG 19

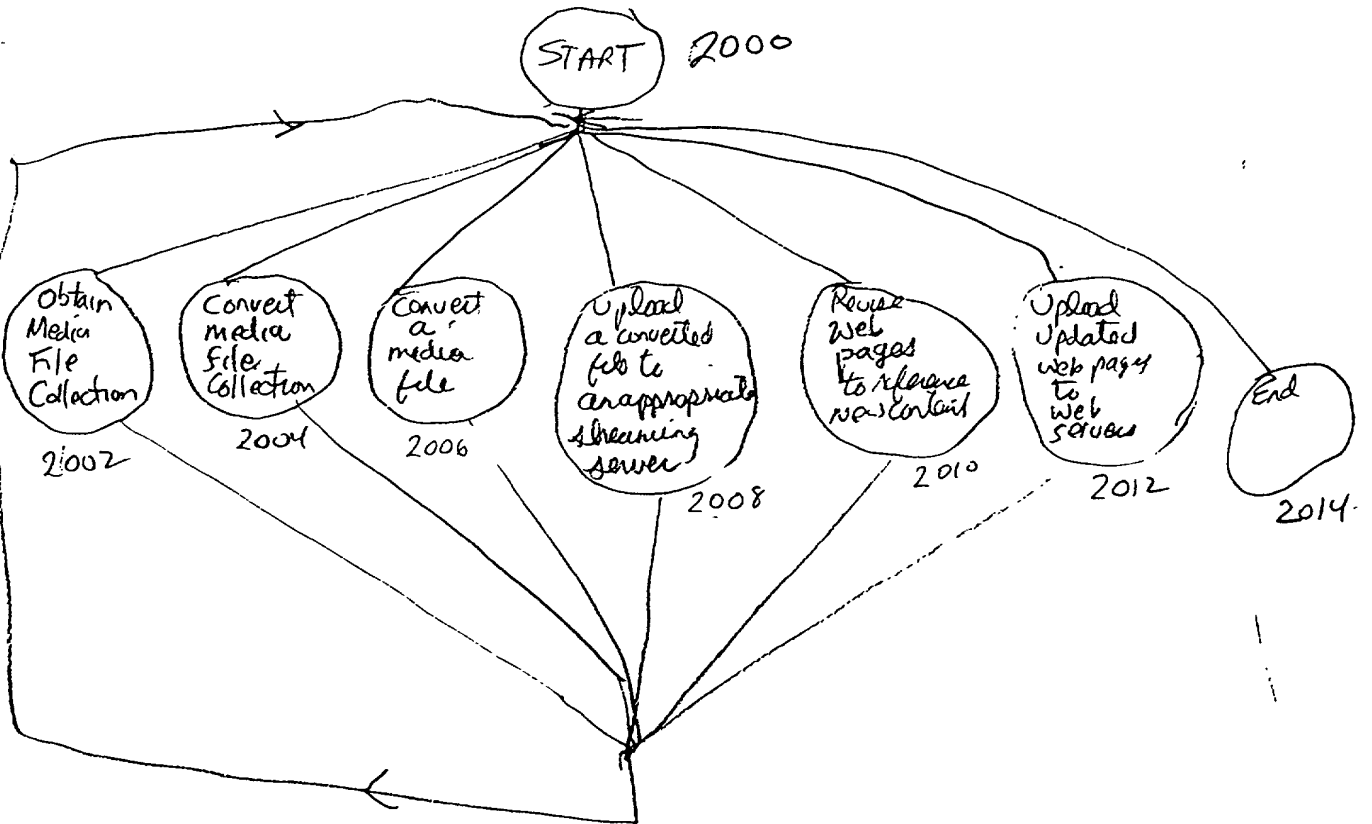
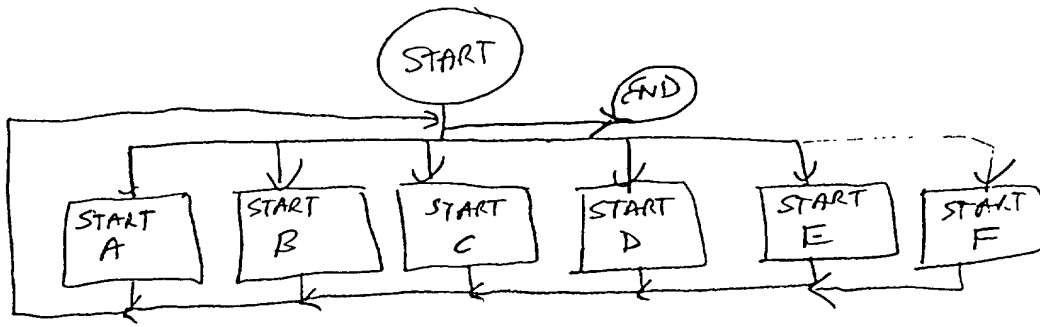
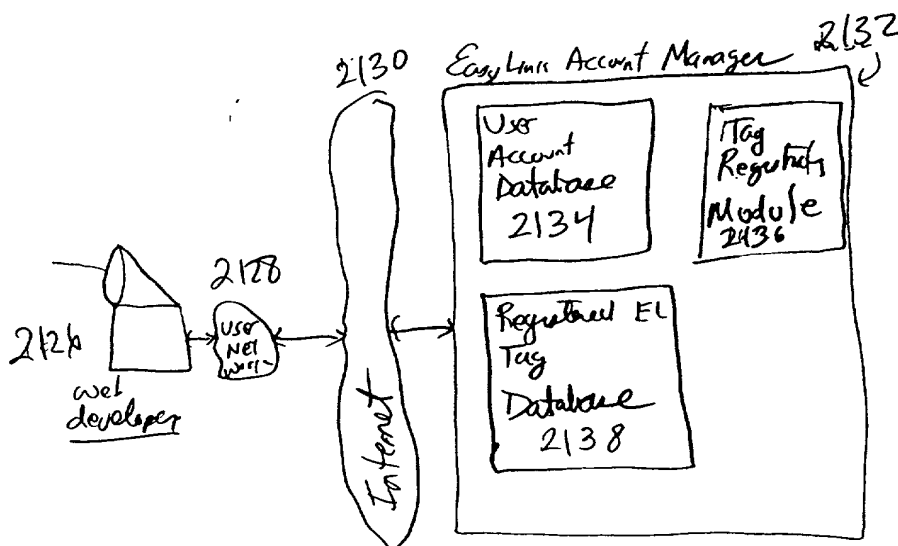
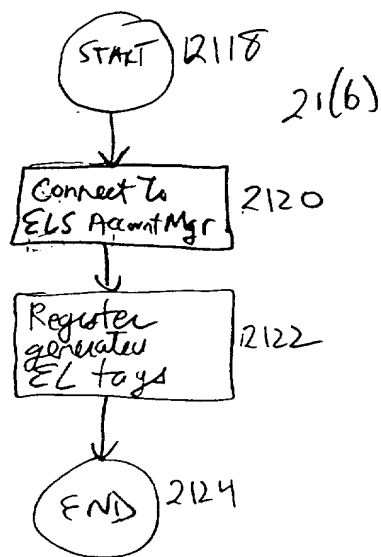
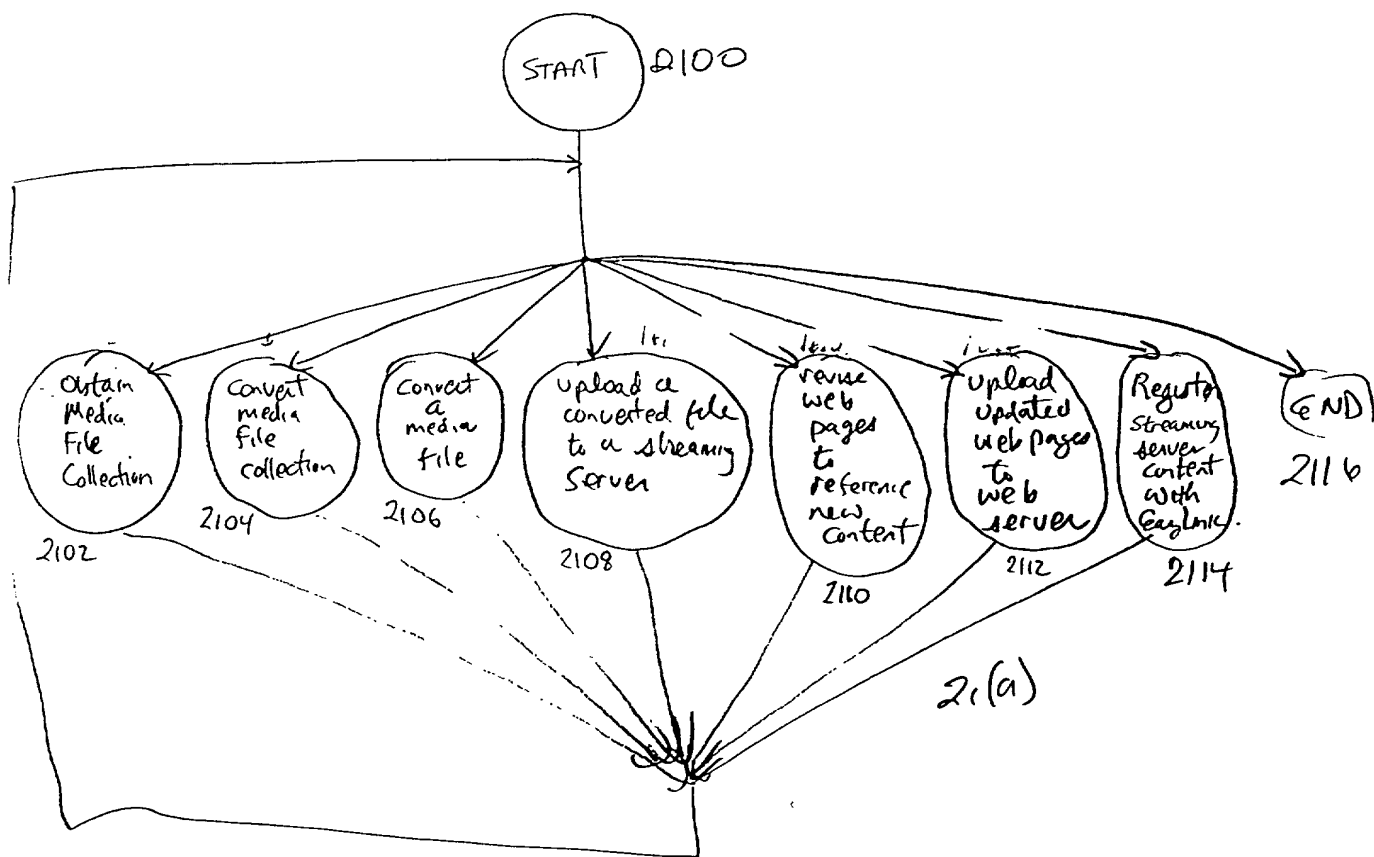
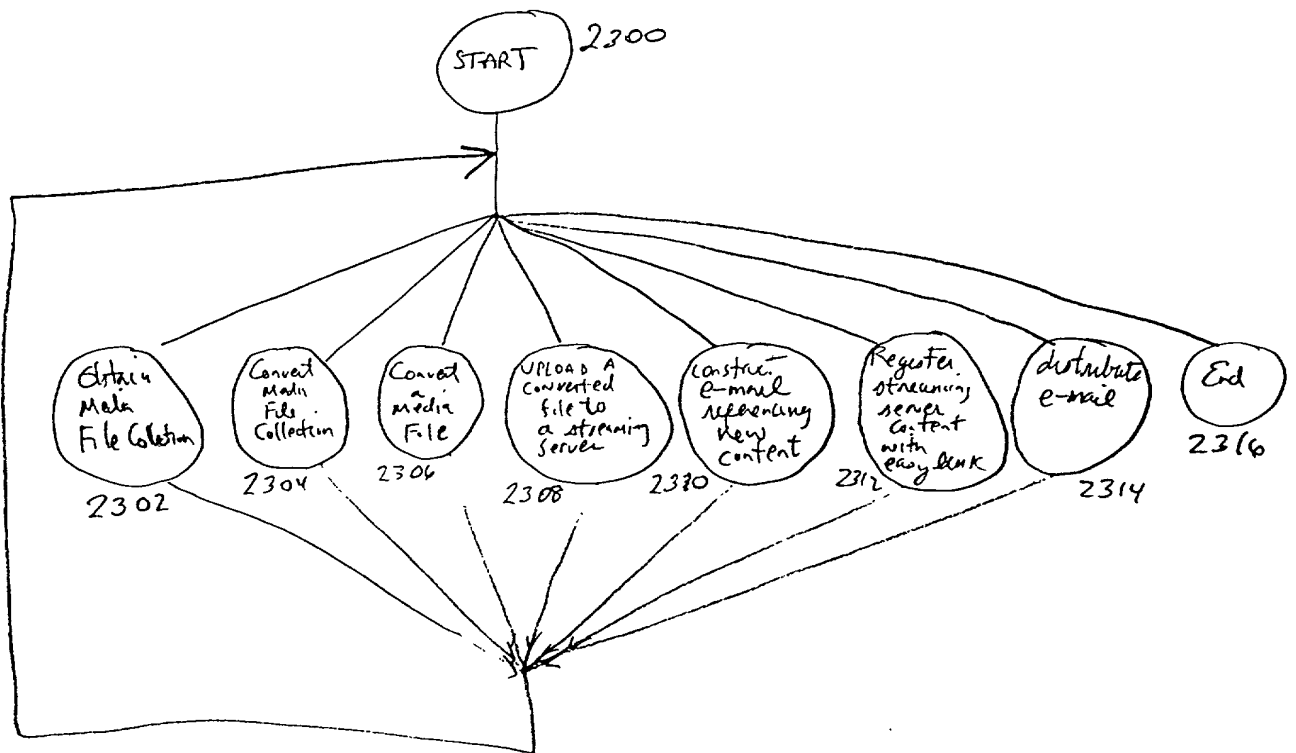


Fig 2.0



Registers Streaming Server Content with EasyLink

Fig. 21 (if not used, please)



EasyLink Process for e-mail distribution Fig 23

Automatic Generation of Easy Link HTML Tags (Generalized from Previous Flowchart)

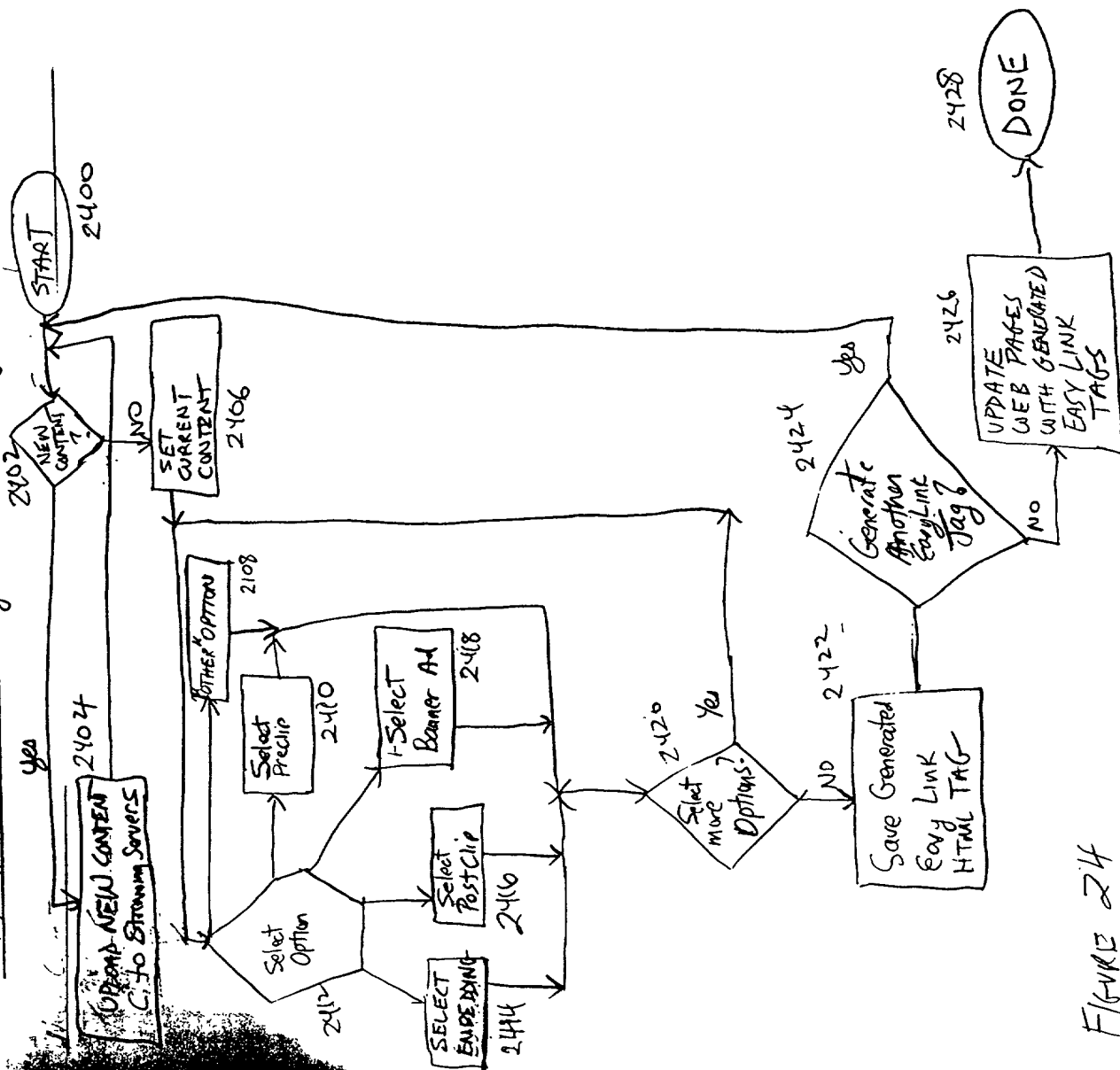
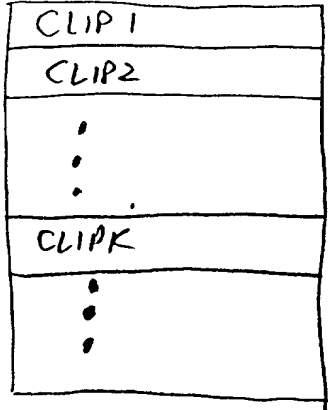


FIGURE 24

Figure 25

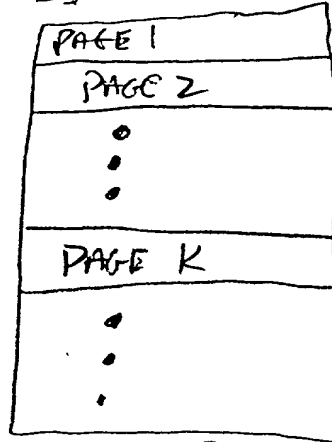
Memory Organization supporting Automatic Generation of Easy Link Tags

2500



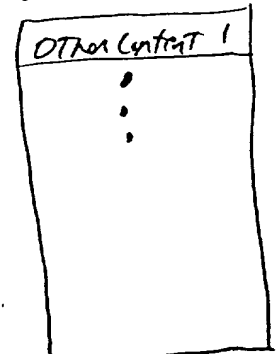
STORAGE FOR PRE+
POST CLIPS

2502



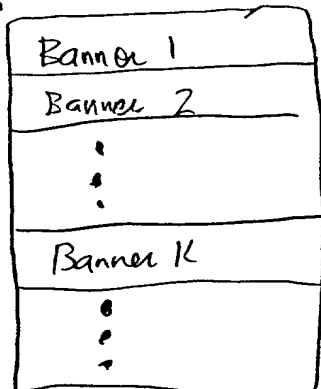
STORAGE of Pages
in which clips may be
embedded

2508



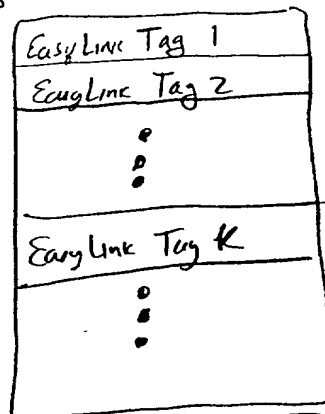
Support for
"Other Content"

2504



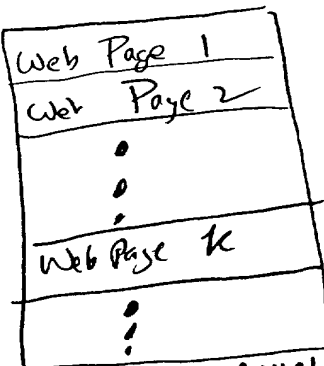
STORAGE of
BANNERS

2506



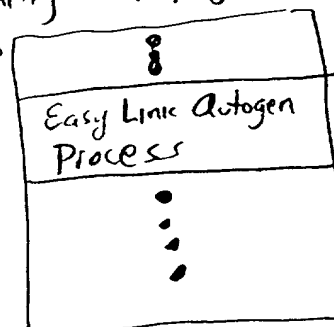
STORAGE of generated
EasyLink Tags for
Editing Web pages

2510



Developer's Local Web
PAGE STORAGE

2512

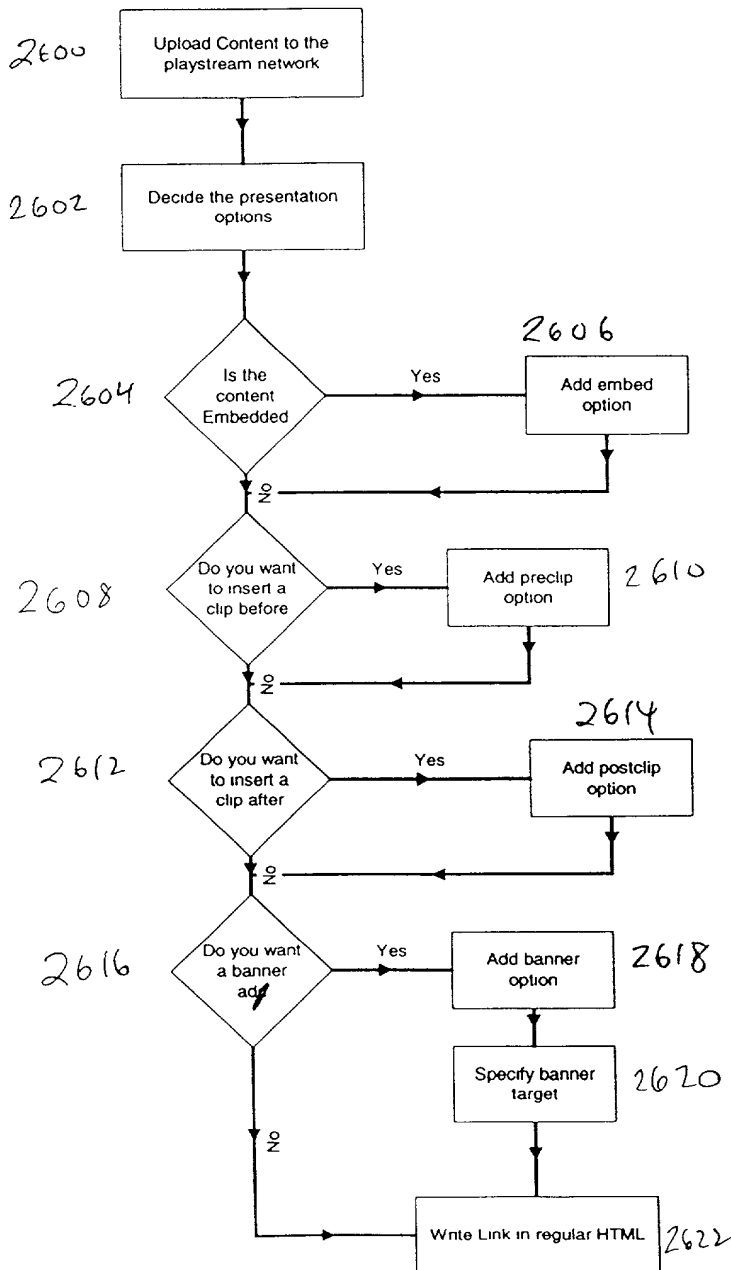


Process Storage

FIGURE 26

EasyLink Server Link Generation Flow Chart

options identical for all formats



EasyLink Diagram

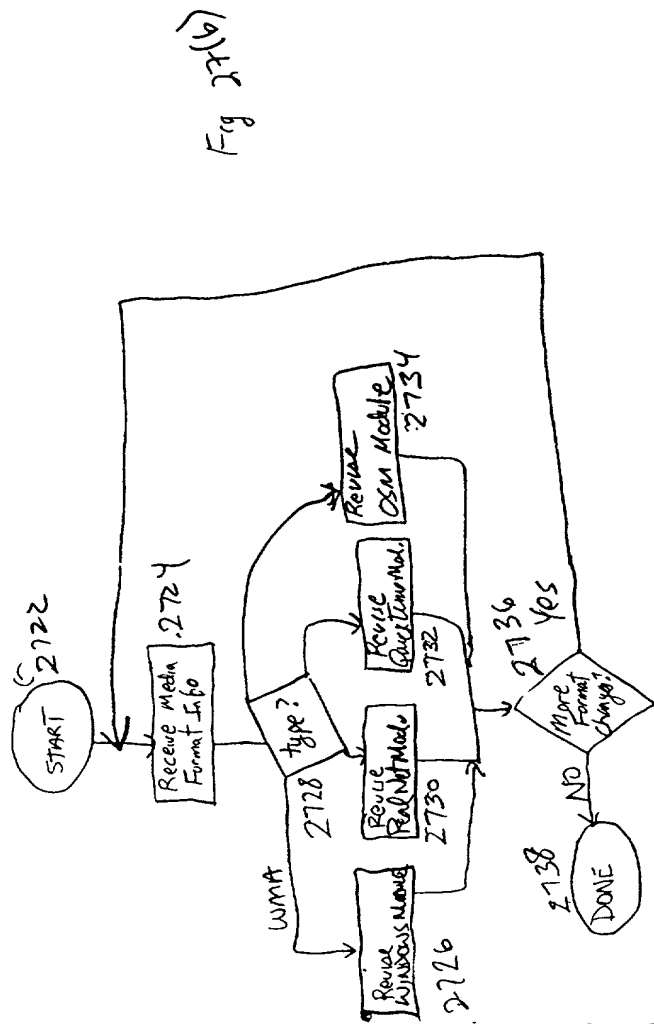
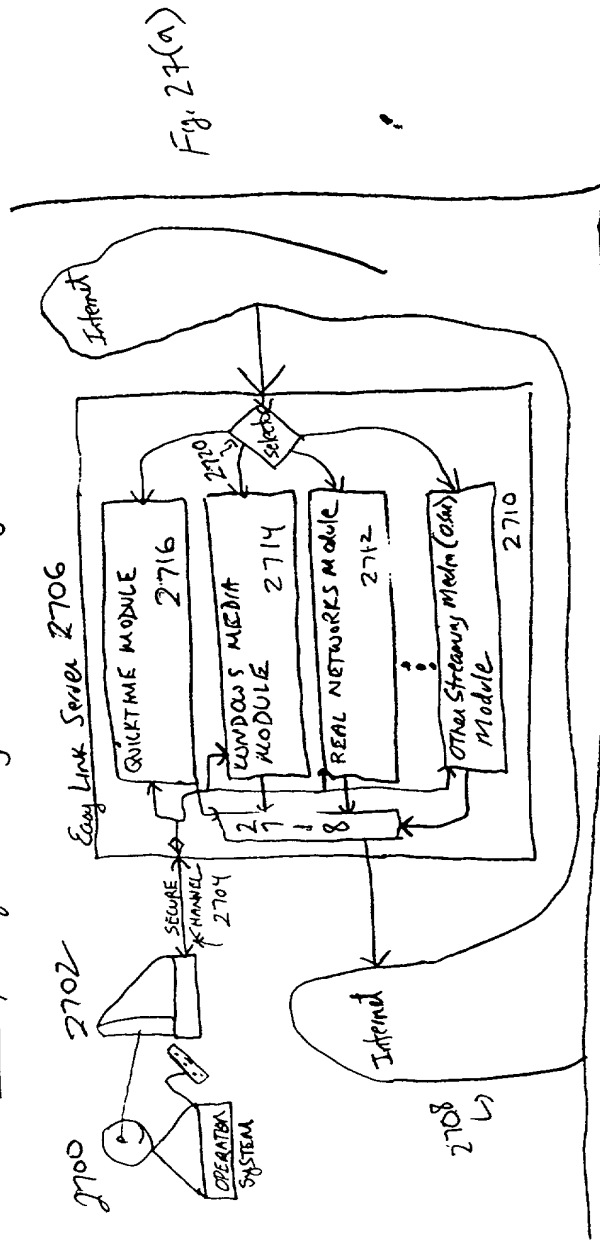
EasyLink enables the Web site developer to link Web pages (or email) to media files on streaming servers with a new level of simplicity. EasyLink does not require the user to understand the complexities in linking streaming media to their Web page (or to an email) as this application remains transparent to the end user. This includes the linking of RealNetwork's RealMedia files, Microsoft's WindowsMedia files, Apple's QuickTime files. Before EasyLink, a Web site developer had to manage three separate files to enable a media file to stream to a Web page: a) the Web Page from which the developer desires to provide the end-user with access to the media file over the Internet, b) a hidden "Simple Text" or reference file which contains the Internet address to the media file, and c) the media file. With EasyLink, the Web site developer eliminates step "b" (the reference file) and can link the Web page directly to the media file.

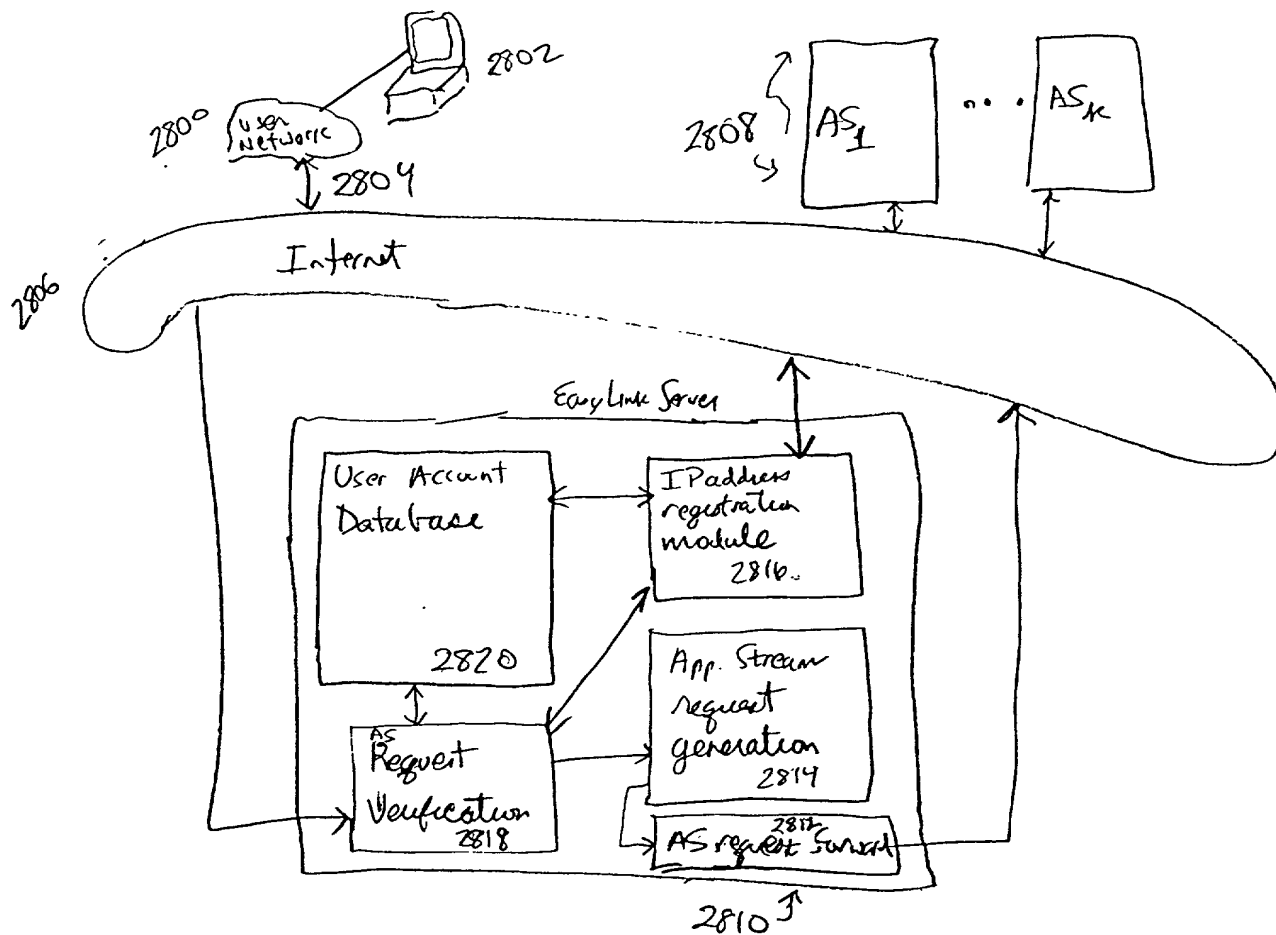
Under the current method, the Internet Service Provider (ISP) must properly configure the MIME-types on the Web server to recognize the reference file for each streaming media format (RealMedia, WindowsMedia, QuickTime). As EasyLink dynamically links directly from the Web page to the Streaming servers, the absence of using the reference files also removes the need for the ISP to properly configure the MIME-types on the Web server.

EasyLink also enables the Web site developer to use a standard hyperlink ("href" link) on a Web page that now points directly to their media on the streaming server. Before EasyLink, the user would have to learn each streaming media format's specific linking requirements, and protocols to use. Thus, by simplifying the linking method required to stream audio or video onto a Web page, the Web site developer benefits from a new level of simplicity as well as an ability to quickly deploy streaming media onto a Web site

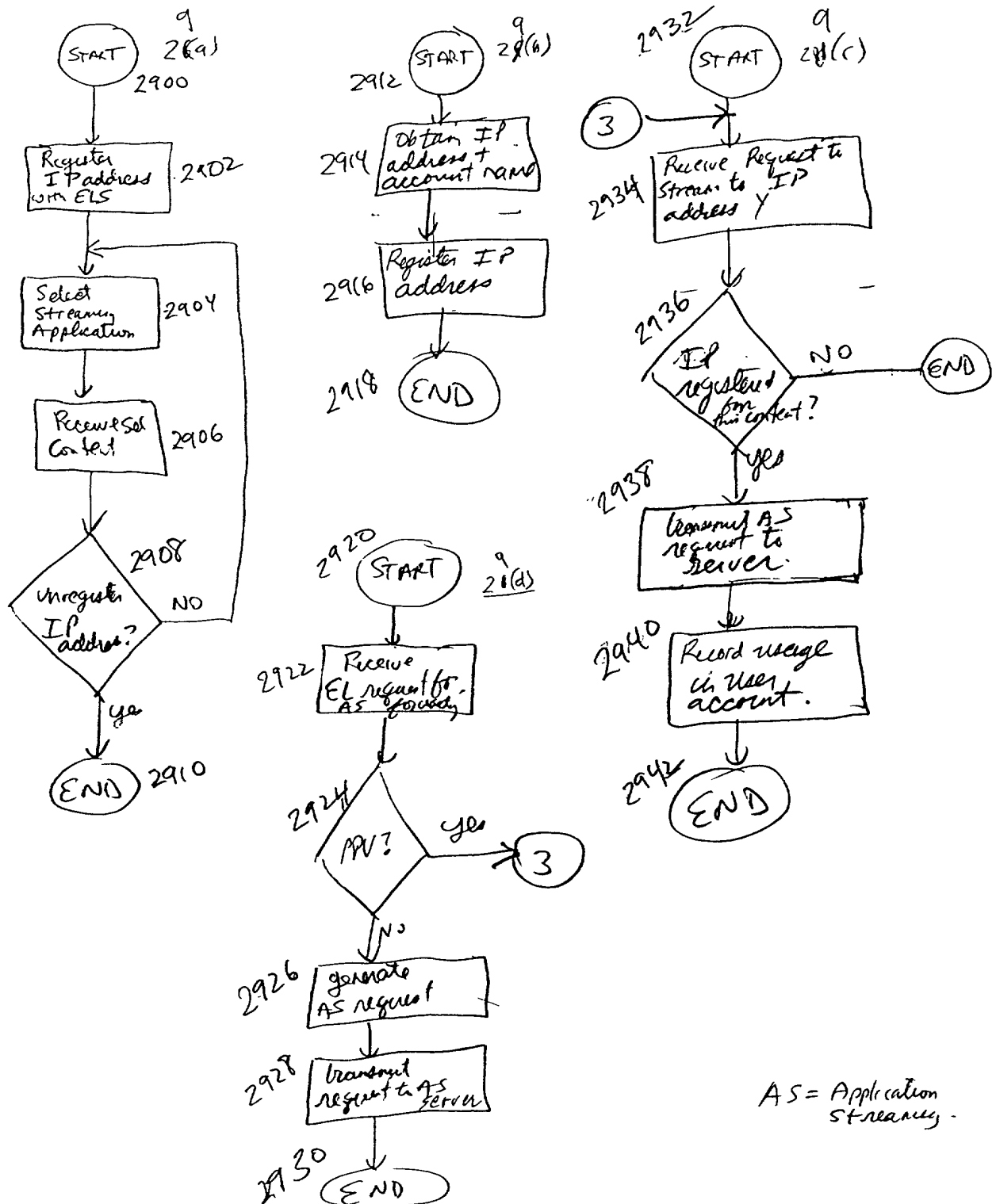
Due to EasyLink's modular architecture, the benefits of EasyLink will be extended to include other capabilities including, but not limited to: Digital Rights Management, Content Syndication and Application Streaming.

Responding to Changes in Streaming Application Server Requirements under EasyLink Server





Embodiment showing ELS showing PPV capability. Fig 2.7



Example of Using Early Link for Paying for Content.

Figure 29

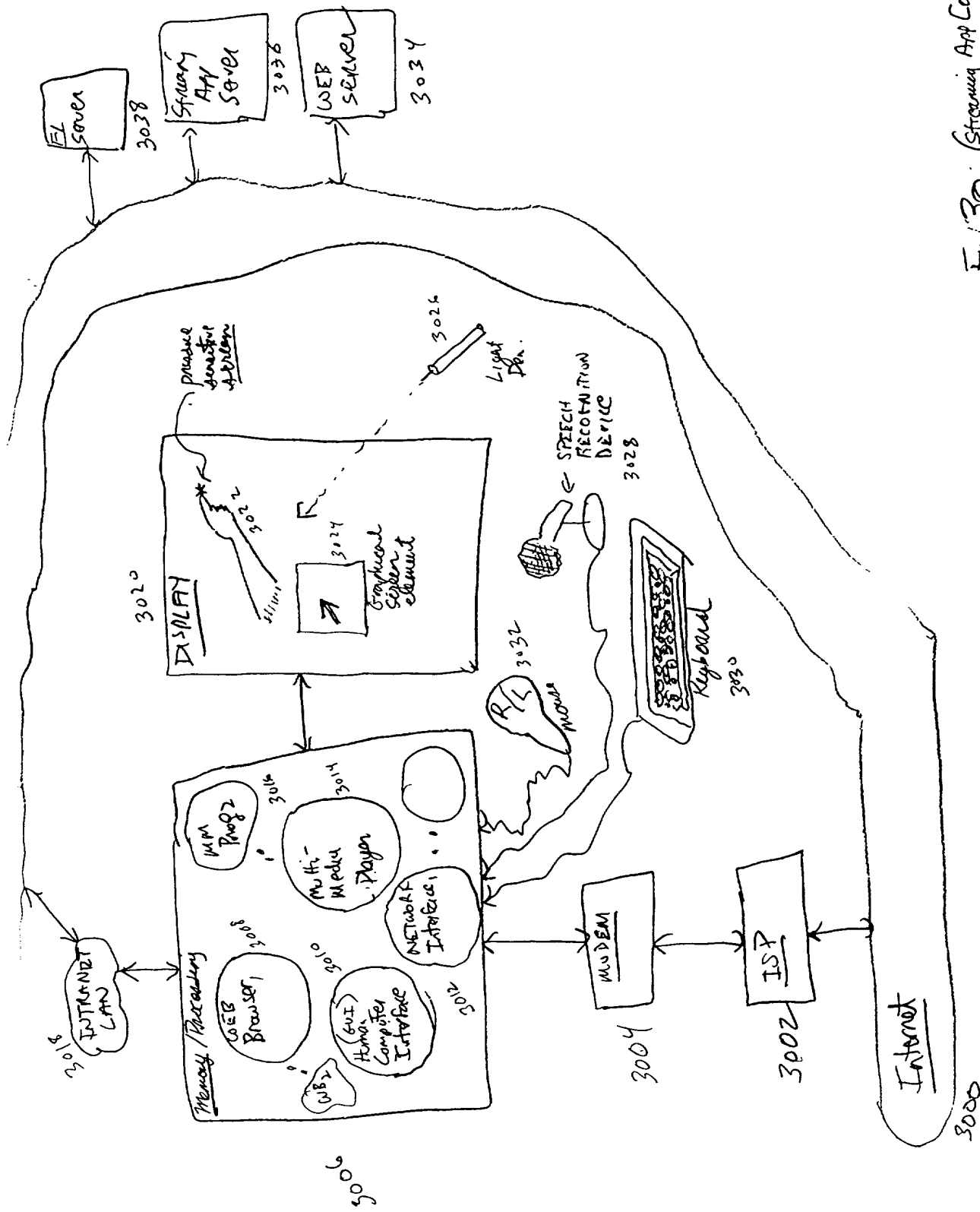


Fig. 30 (Streaming App Consumer)

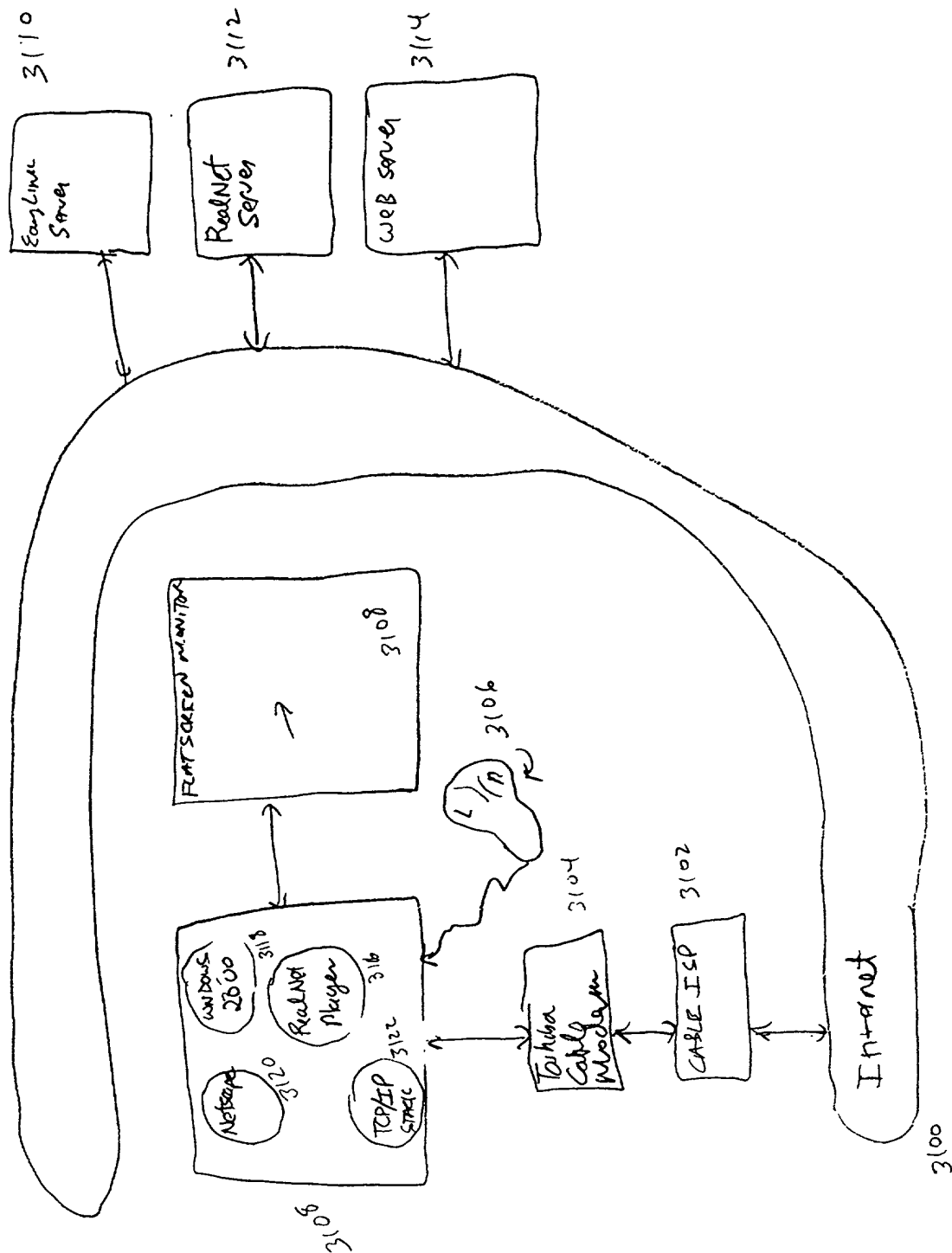


FIG 31

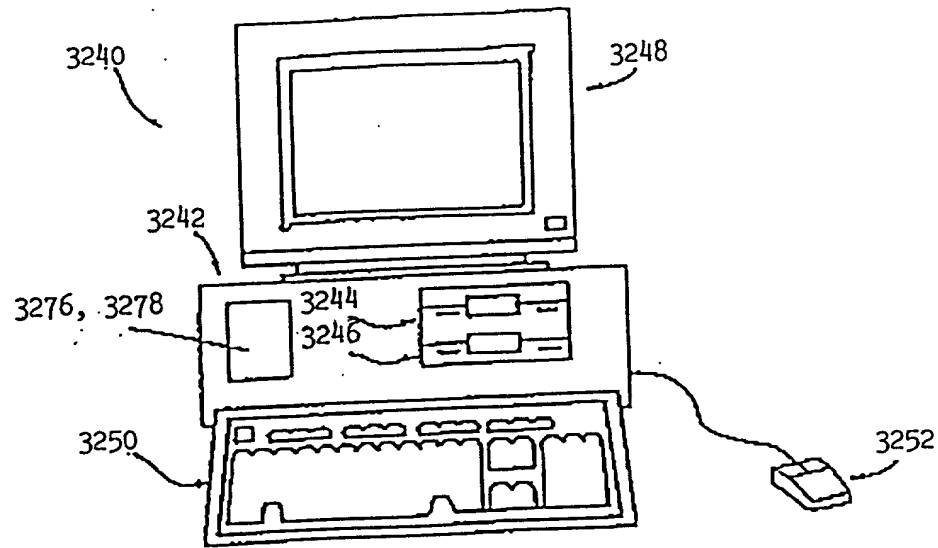


FIG. 32

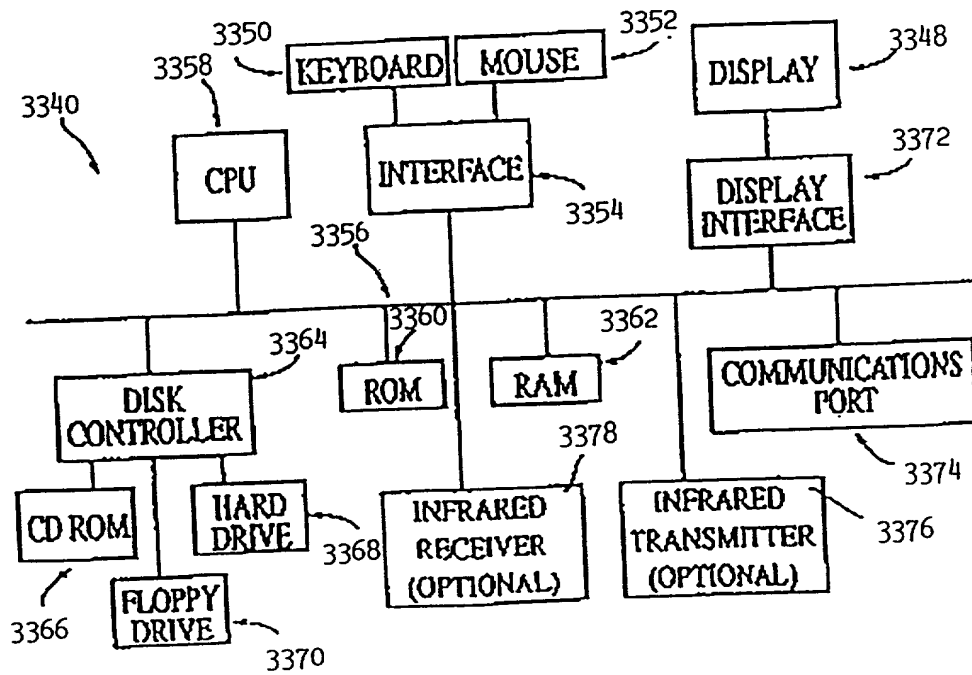


FIG. 33

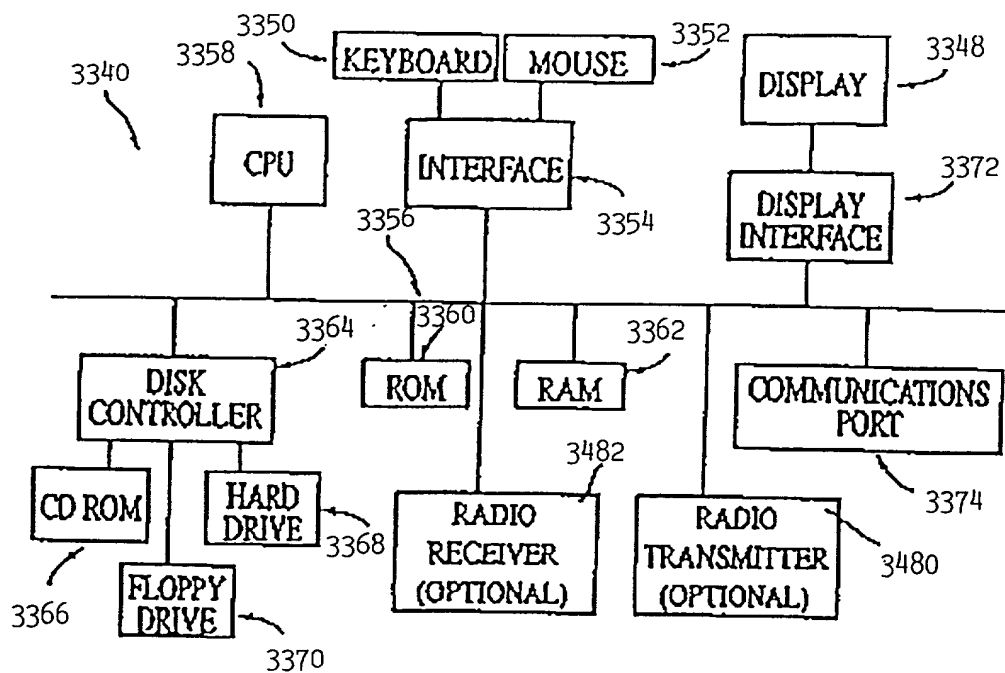


FIG. 34

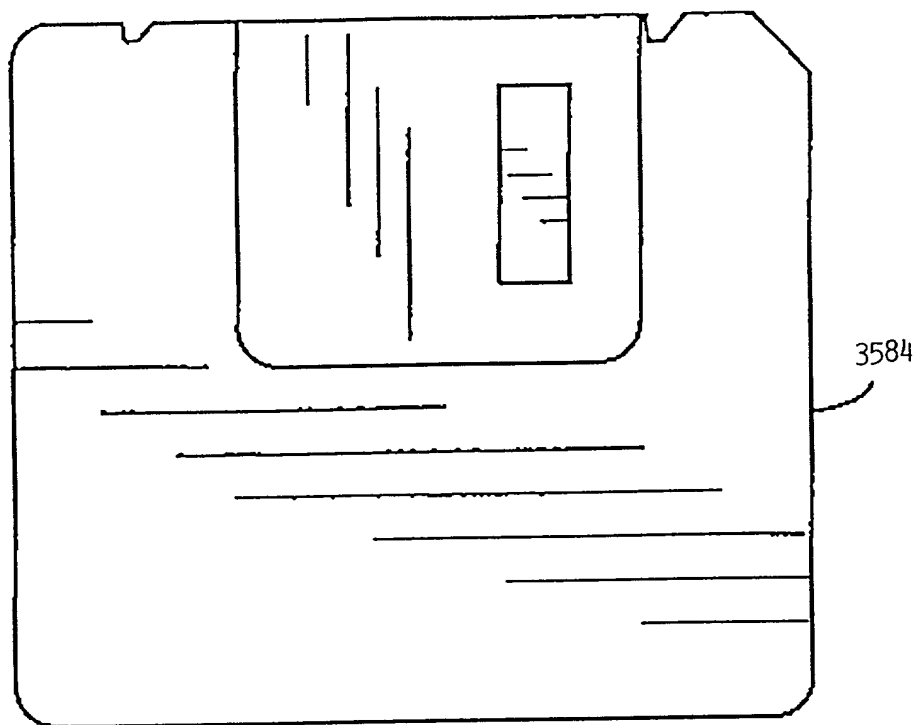


FIG. 35